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3 July 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Acting Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM:

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Coups

- 1. A few days before Bob went off on vacation, I suggested to him that we should get a study done on coups--warnings, nature, aftermath, etc. He said he would assign that to the Center for Instability and Insurgency in OGI.
- 2. A point was given to this concept by the aborted Bolivian coup over last weekend. The interesting thing about that is that it may be the kind of aborted coup which is a precursor of a more successful coup from the other direction. An unsuccessful military coup followed by retaliation against the military can open up an opportunity and improve the chances of a coup from the left. It probably also works vice versa.
- 3. On Sunday I met Constantine Menges at the barbecue for the diplomatic corps at the White House. He brought up the Bolivian coup and mentioned to me that Sam Huntington had sent him two papers on coups d'etat done by a professor at Johns Hopkins. I attach copies which may be useful in the projects I discussed with Bob.

William J. Casey

Attachments:

Ltr to Dr. Menges From Steven R. David, dated 4 April 1984, w/two attachments—(1) Defending Third World Regimes from Coups d'Etat, and (2) The Soviet Union and Third World Coups d'Etat

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